

FLORIDA SKIP

VOL. 34 No. 12

THE ALL-FLORIDA AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATION

OCTOBER 1992

75 Cents

FLORIDA HAMFEST UPDATE

DATE	LOCATION	8/1/92	NOTES
Sept 27	New Port Richey	Recreation Center, 6630 Van Buren	Talk-in on 145.350
Oct 3	Titusville	FREE! At Arthur Dunn Airport in Titusville	Talk-in on 146.910
Oct 24/25	West Palm Beach	Expo Center, South Fla Fair Grounds on State Road 80.	Talk-in on 147.165
Nov 7	Eustis	Lake County Hamfest at the Fair Grounds	Talk-in on 147.255 & 442.900
Nov 21/22	Tampa	Expo Hall, Fla State Fair Grounds	Talk-in on 146.940
Dec 5	Okeechobee	Talk-in on 147.195	
1993			
Jan 23	Crystal River	At the Crystal River Armory	Talk-in on 146.955
Jan 24	Pinellas Park	Benefit Pinellas Park Boy's Club 61st St N.	Talk-in on 147.060
Feb 6/7	Miami	At Fairgrounds, SW 112th Ave & Coral Way	Talk-in on 146.925
Feb 13	Pensacola	Bayfront Municipal Auditorium	Talk-in on 146.760 & 442.925
Feb 19/20	Sarasota	At Robards Sports Arena	Talk-in on 146.910 & 146.730
Feb 20	Stuart	FREE! At Langford Park, Jensen Beach	Talk-in on 147.060
Feb 27	Brooksville	Hernando County Fairgrounds	Talk-in on 146.715
Mar 12/14	Orlando	Central Florida Fairgrounds 4300 W. Colonial Dr	Talk-in on 146.760
Mar 20/21	Ft. Walton Beach	North Florida Ham/Swapfest at the Fairgrounds in Ft. Walton Beach	Talk-in on 146.790

 * Send any corrections or additions on packet to KB4VOL @ KB4VOL *
 * This update replaces all previous lists, which should be discarded *

HURRICANE ANDREW AND THE EMERGENCY BROADCAST SYSTEM

by Florida Skip Correspondent
 Carl Zelich, AA4MI

During the critical hours before Hurricane Andrew hit the south Florida coast, the Emergency Broadcast System was activated. WIOD and WINZ, serving Miami, activated the system at the request of the Governor of the State of Florida at 9:30 a.m., Sunday, August 23. This was nearly a day before the hurricane hit the Florida coast at approximately 6:00 a.m., Monday, August 24. Spanish-speaking residents were served by WQBA during the activation. EBS remained activated throughout the day on Monday as the hurricane moved through Florida to the Gulf of Mexico to keep the public alerted.



ANDREW SLASHES FLORIDA!

by Florida Skip Correspondent
 Carl Zelich, AA4MI

Hurricane Andrew smashed into southern Florida leaving total destruction! With winds exceeding 167 miles per hour, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) lost its wind-speed measuring equipment. The NHC had its radome ripped from the roof. All tracking responsibilities were shifted to the National Weather Service Washington facilities.

Florida Radio Amateurs were following Andrew's path and projected impact zones since it began as a wisp of clouds several hundred miles east of the Leeward Islands on August 17. This tropical wave quickly evolved into the second most powerful hurricane in history.

Radio Amateurs throughout the United States sprang into action. The Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz. and the United Nations Readiness Net, 4U1UN, maintained their watch on 14.268 and 7.257 MHz.

The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Tallahassee was Net Control for all county EOCs throughout Florida. Operating on 3990.5 and 7253.5 kHz, vital communication links were maintained to the southern Florida counties.

Southern Florida Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) operated on ssb on 3.940 and 7.247 MHz and cw on 3.651 and 7.061 MHz. Northern Florida ARES used ssb on 3.940 and 7.275 MHz.

All Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) nets were fully activated. These Department of Defense nets provided emergency communications on local, state and national levels. Nelson, AFA2XD, KJ4KL, operated in east, central Florida.

Reports from the disaster areas, primarily Cutler Ridge, Kendall, Homestead and surrounding areas, described nuclear-bomb conditions. Damage was estimated at \$20 billion, 63,000 homes destroyed, 180,000 homeless and 1.5 million people without power. Incredible reports of damage were relayed over all h.f. and vhf/uhf links.

In central Florida, the Orlando ARC, Titusville ARC, Indian River ARC and the Platinum Coast ARS members

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DEADLINE: 8th of month in P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.

(See Advertising Rates in Hambar Section)

SILENT KEYS

We are deeply sorry to report the passing of the following Radio Amateur Operators. Kindly advise SKIP Editor if you hear of any in your area. Thanks.

W9DI	William R. Cottrell, 93	Jacksonville
WB1FRQ	Robert Bailey	Ft. Myers
K4CNP	Leonard Butsch Jr.	Dunedin
WA4EHH	William Smith	Summerfield
KA4FSY	Armin Sommer Sr	Kissimmee
N4JJW	Milan Smith	Punta Gorda
K4SZO	Rudolph Tressel	Titusville
WB8PSS	Gerald Scanlan	Naples

NOTICE SNOW BIRDS...

PLEASE — when you FLY North or South, or any other place, please let us know at least 2 to 3 weeks in advance. When you move without advising us, the Post Office returns your SKIP and it costs us 35 cents for each issue. It used to be 15 cents, but they increased it over 100 percent. Please help us do a better job for you... Thanks!! Editor.

August 26, 1992

Andy,

Here is my check for another year of a wonderful magazine. Yes, the new type set is very good. I like it very much.

Well I hope you weathered Andrew without too much damage. We in Okeechobee did not have any damage. We were well prepared, but the good Lord let it pass well south of us as you know. We lived in Hialeah for many years and experienced a couple of storms while we were there. We had our 2 meter net set up and it worked real well. Bob Frank W4NIJ was air coordinator and did a fantastic job. (147.195+)

Here's one for your skip it... When someone calls on your phone. "You have reached the "Roberts" residence. We are home right now but don't want to talk to you. When you hear the beep, please hang up.

C.J. Shafer KD4JIX
3312 SE 34 Avenue
Okeechobee, FL 34974

CHERISH ALL YOUR MEMENTS: THEY MAKE A FINE
CUSHION FOR OLD AGE... t u Duke KI4GH

Editor,

Heck yes. Howard!! I remember the Theremin (spelled correctly). You're right. It was first employed in the movies and that's where the British Composer Harry Revel saw it and marveled at the sound.

He proceeded to write a series of songs about six Corday Fragrances. they were "Toujour Moi", "Fame", "Tzigane", "Jet", "Possession" and "L'Ardenre Nuit", with the use of the Theremin in mind.

With Les Baxter and his orchestra along with Dr. Samuel Hoffman, the music was arranged, recorded and put into an album called "Perfume Set To Music". The recording was done by RCA records and set into an album numbered P231. The records were done on 78's. I still possess the album although some of the records are not in the best condition having been played hard and often. I was Dr. Hoffman who manipulated the Theremin. I remember Dr. Hoffman giving a demonstration of the instrument in early fifties television. As I recall, the pitch and vibrato were done with the use of the right hand near a vertical column of one sort or another, and the gain was similarly executed by the left hand in proximity to another device the description of which I cannot recall. Incidentally, the most popular of those numbers was "Jet".

Now that we have that one out of the way, do you remember an electronic gadget called "Solovox"? It was a method of vocalizing sounds. If you paid any attention to commercials on the radio years back, you might recall the vocalizing of a locomotive whistle and the choo, choo of the locomotive. It went like this: "Fight headache three ways, Bromo-seltzer, Bromo-seltzer, Bromo-seltzer".

Okay, Howard (84.eh!!), there you have it. If you would like a tape (cassette) of those numbers (or at least some of them), drop me a note and I'll do my best to get it to you.

73, de KA3KUA
Hap Gardner
457 W. Granda Ave.
Hershey, PA 17033

Dear Mr. Clark,

I am writing to you regarding the hurricane which ripped through the southern Florida area recently. I sincerely hope that you and your family escaped injury and damage.

As Amateur Radio operators frequently provide a lifeline of communication in such disasters, we would like to publish an original article featuring local operators' roles in this particular situation. In the interest of promoting Amateur Radio and public service, you may be interested in doing such a story yourself or you may know of someone who would.

We try to maintain a profile of such stories in *Worldradio* which illustrate the endeavors of Amateur Radio operators who, in time of crisis, suddenly become very important to everyone. Any reader may be in a similar situation later on, and if learning of your experiences at this time can in some way help another person, then we'll all have benefitted.

I have enclosed some of our Writer's Guidelines which should answer any questions you may have if you decide to write a story for us. (Any accompanying photos would be greatly appreciated.) If you do not feel that you'd like to do that, perhaps you know of someone else or have some information which might be helpful.

I look forward to your response and hope you'll agree to work with us.

Cordially,
Robin Wortley, KC6RUD
Managing Editor
2120 28th St.
Sacramento, CA 95818

FCC 610 FORM

FLORIDA SKIP has a new supply of FCC 610 forms. Any SKIP member may have one or two by sending me a number 10 business size envelope, self addressed and a 29 cent stamp on it, FREE. Send to SKIP 610, P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.

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P.O. Box 501

Miami Springs, Florida 33266

Enclosed is \$8.00 FOR 1 year subscription
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Amateur Radio & Computer Show October 24 & 25, 1992

Early Reservation Information

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South Florida Fair Grounds
Southern Blvd (State Rd 80)
West Palm Beach, Florida

Saturday October 24, 1992
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sunday October 25, 1992
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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Admission tickets are \$4.00 in advance and \$5.00 at the door. Tickets are valid both days.

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Flea market tables are available on a first come basis. Overflow will be located in adjacent building. Flea market tables are \$15.00 in advance and \$17.00 at the door, if available. Tables are valid both days. If adjacent tables are desired, registration forms must be mailed together. Electric is available at \$2.00 for both days. Admission tickets must be purchased with flea market tickets. Friday setup for flea market is from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM. For more information call Vi Kiekenapp, KC4LCF - (407) 585-9074.

FCC Exams

Novice thru Extra exams are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday. Exams will start promptly at 9:00 AM. Exams will be held on site.

Vendor Area

For Vendor information contact Hal Gainen, N4UIT at (407) 439-0805.

Talk-In Frequency

Talk-In Frequency will be the 147.165/147.765 repeater with 146.520 simplex used for close in work. Talk-In will be active one hour before Hamfest hours and one hour before Setup hours.

Lodging

Days Inn - Turnpike (407) 686-6000
6255 Okeechobee Blvd
West Palm Beach, FL 33417

Reservations must be made directly with Hotel. Reservation deadline is October 9th, 1992.

Full-Hookup RV Sites

RV sites will be available through the South Florida Fair Grounds. Call 1-800 527-3247.

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Palm Beach County HAMFEST 1992
Reservation Deadline October 9th, 1992



(Please Print Clearly)

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Phone _____

Qty
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(valid both days)

Flea Market _____ @ \$15.00 _____
(per space)

Electric _____ @ \$2.00 _____

Total _____

Send a S.A.S.E and make checks payable to:
PBRA HAMFEST, P.O. Box 461, Lake Worth, FL 33460 October 1992, Florida skip / 3

TRAFFIC HOUNDS - AUGUST, 1992

by Bill Jochimsen, K4ZK - STM, So. Fla.

NET	QNI	AVG.	QTC	AVG.	SESS.	MGR	QTC/QNI
OFN	855	13.8	668	10.8	62	AA4HT	.78
FPTN	1188	38.3	390	12.5	31	WB4WYG	.32
SEFTN	1350	35.5	376	9.9	38	KD4GR	.27
FMTN	525	16.9	342	11	31	WX4H	.65
GN	186	6.2	229	7.6	31	W4DL	1.23
TPTN	470	15.2	168	5.4	31	WB4QKI	.35
SVTN	851	28.3	94	3.1	30	KC4ONA	.11
FPON	206	6.6	90	2.9	31	WB4GCK	.43
ENMC	135	15	89	9.9	9	K4ZK	.65
SWFTN	477	18.3	85	3.3	26	K4FQU	.17
QFNS	200	6.4	77	2.5	31	WA4QXT	.38
FMSN	268	8.6	74	2.4	31	KC4ECA	.27
PBTN	930	35.8	41	1.6	26	KD4GJM	.04
SPARC	545	17.6	32	1	31	N4ZMQ	.05
AIN	52	10.4	12	2.4	5	WA4PFK	.23
SFAN	39	9.8	3	.8	4	KD4GR	.07

TOTAL QTC: 2770 AVG QTC/QNI .38

LATE: JULY

FPON 206 6.6 68 2.2 31 WD4KBW

TOP TWENTY TRAFFICERS - AUGUST 1992

by WA4PFK and WB4GHU

STATION	TOTAL	STATION	TOTAL
1. W3CUL	3315	11. AA4HT	249
2. W3VR	1067	12. K4ZK	235
3. K4SCL	743	13. KD4ELJ	177
4. WA9VND	642	14. N2WX	164
5. KB4WBY	586	15. W4DL	161
6. WA4PFK	476	16. KD4GR	142
7. KC4ZHF	291	17. KC4ECA	137
8. WA4EIC	286	18. KA4FZI	130
9. K4EUK	285	19. KD4ELI	99
10. N4RHJ	253	20. WT4F	85

FLORIDA C. W. NETS

By Ed, K4IA

QFN Reported by Rip, AA4HT: As a result of Hurricane Andrew the traffic on QFN in August increased 20 percent over July. The actual traffic count increased from 558 to 668 in August.

Hurricane Andrew proved again that ham radio operators are ready and able to respond to this type of situation. Many thanks to those operators that helped keep the traffic moving on QFN. The usual afternoon lightning storms and long skip on forty meters make that even more of a challenge.

If any members of the net have any information that they would like to share with other net members, please let me know and we can put the information in future QFN FLORIDA SKIP articles. Until next month — 73, Rip.

FMSN Reported by J.B., KC4ECA: A nice card was received from John, W4PFQ which shows the beautiful fall color change in the Great Smokey mountains. John, a new member on the net is located in Belleview, Florida and looks forward to handling traffic for Ocala and in surrounding Marion County.

I'd like to thank Steve, W4WJK for taking over the QFN detail on Tuesdays, also subbing for me on Friday while I was NCS for K4IA. There was comment here last month about WA4QXT's need for a replacement keyer. You must have noted that Walt has found a new one and now sounds like the real pro that he is. Did you see the nice picture of Laura, WA9VND In last month's FLORIDA SKIP? It's good to hear Jim,

4 / Florida Skip, October 1992



FOOD Always tastes better on a cookout. Members of the PARCSHARC team (left to right) ajn Heise WA4VQD, Don Winn AF4Z and George Fundus AA4FC, take a chow break. The team sleeping quarters were the floor behind the dining table which was also one of the operating locations. This convent classroom sure beats the tent at our last Field Day. (phot by AB4ET.)

KD4GR check in both on this net and QFN. Jim, we need FTL so please QNI often.

We have lots of QRN and SSB to content with, therefore we don't need any one turning up during the net call up. Be considerate and use a dummy load, or at least go off frequency. Thanks.

Here's a traffic generator; a welcome message to your friend the snow bird who just returned. Bring it to FMSN at 1730 on 7061/3651 kHz. — 73, J.B.

Gator Net Manager Dan, W4DL Writes: The net welcomes Dick N2AOX back and also Bonnie, WB4FSF.

George, K4JI has had dipole problems with tree damage during the hurricane.

Chris, N4EKC has been to Europe and had a short hospital stay but he is OK now.

Andy, W4IYT took down his big pole, but had emergency power all during Andrew.

WT4F, Bill covered as net control during the storm and filed storm traffic.

Dan, W4DL lost power for five days. His 30 year old house stood like a rock, but the back yard is a disaster area.

Mae, W3CUL says weather getting cooler and all emergency equipment back in storage.

Sam, N4BGS is a silent key. The net will miss him and sends it's condolences to his family. — 73, Dan.

QFNS reported by WA4QXT: The stats for August: QNI 200, QTC 77, QND 544. August is dog days and it seems to have affected QFNS as all figures are down. The high QNI were WC4D, WA4PFK, WA9VND, KA4FZI and WA4QXT, followed by: KD4GR, N4IWO and KC4FL. Others: AA4CH, AA4HT, AE8G, KC4ECA, WB4DNC, W4DWN, W4DL!! and KC4ZHN. It's good to have some newcomers and some oldtimers on the net with us. Come back and join us often.

While working with storm communications, WA4QXT checked in on August 31st portable from South Dade County with a borrowed Kenwood TS-440 to a Hustler mobile antenna. That's all for this time so come join us at 8:00 P.M. local time on 3715 KHz every night of the month. — 73, Walt.

Traffic Notes using CW. If receiving conditions are so bad that you have to break every few words for a fill, a change of band is indicated. It is frequently better to copy what you can, then request the confirmations and fills required. If you have a nearly complete telephone number, it can be sent as you got it, say 3981 was copied as 3971 - sending "cfm 3971" both locates what is in question and may even be correct. The flow

QSY NET TO P. 6

ICOM'S BACK TO THE SHACK SALE!

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FLS 992

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1-800-427-3066

of plain test not only can be anticipated but repaired when you miss an obvious letter or so.

When conditions are RST 459 or better, a fill request for "wa riverside" may be answered simply "drive" without repeating the request in full. Underline anything that is in doubt, and leave space if something is missed. — 73, Ed, K4IA

FLORIDA TRAFFIC NETS

Net	Frequency	Time (eastern)
Florida Phone TFC Net (FPTN)	3940	0700
Gator Net (GN)	7068	0830
Florida Midday TFC Net (FMTN)	7247.5	1145
Tropical Phone TFC Net (TPTN)	3940/7243	1700
Florida Medium Speed TFC Net (FMSN)	3651/7061	1750
South Florida Amateur SSB TFC Net (FAST/E)	3940	1800
South Florida Amateur SSB TFC Net (FAST/L)	3940	2230
Northern Florida Phone Net (NFPN)	3950	1830/1930
All-Florida CW TFC Net (QFN/E)	3651/7061	1900
All-Florida CW TFC Net (QFN/L)	3651	2200
All-Florida Slow CW TFC Net (QFNS)	3715	2000
Florida Public Operations Net (FPON)	3908	1630
ARRL Information Net (AIN)	3940	0730 (saturday)
Northern Florida Emergency Net	3950	0900 (monday-saturday)
Southern Florida ARES Net	3940	0800 (saturday)

CLIP AND SAME

Note One

Southern Florida Emergency Coordinators and ARES members should monitor 3940 or 7247 KHz in addition to their local net in the event of an emergency. The emergency operations schedule for Florida section nets will be followed if there is a section-wide emergency.

Note Two

The ARRL Net Directory provides a more detailed listing of local and special interest nets (12-7-91).

QFN

The month of July is over and here it is halfway into August with September just around the corner. My where does the time go when you're having fun? We have had alot of vacation people and all of you having a good time were really missed. Its hard not to believe just how each person performing some sort of function when not on the net is missed. Scramble for subs and all that stuff is of prime importance. Thanks to WA9VND, K4EUK, WA4EIC, NR2F, and a host of others who bring traffic. Thanks to KB9UN, WA4RIL, N4ADI, WB4QKI, AB4PG, WA4JVR, N2DCP, N9EHP, KC4VK, WA4QXT plus more. Everyone gets mentioned as the months go by. WB4WYG has been away and I just heard that N4ADI was having rig problems. Get fixed up soon Roy, we need your experience with net doings. One weekend checker in, WA4PFK, was mobile and in my old stomping grounds of Scaley Mountain, N.C., he had a fierce signal and that was due to the height of that area. NJ4L lives in Hendersonville, N.C. and does the same thing with height and a very small antenna system. Anyone on the net that can raise their wires even a little will really increase their coverage. If you are working people in the North or Northeast try to orient wires in a NW BY SE direction. Good Luck to be sure.

Anyone who has news and information that would be worthy of net reading please send to me via radio, letter and/or carrier pigeon. I do, like others that write for Skip, need bits of interest. By the By, a good story would do for sure once in awhile and it would help to keep it concise cause Skip Magazine does not have alot of room. Do not let that discourage you cause we can edit to fit with your approval. I guess thats about it for now — keep the traffic flowing, send some messages to relatives and friends so everyone will have a little extra to do when times are slow. See you on the nets and 73's.

Mort, WX4H

FPTN

Hurricane Andrew has been in our state and has left — but not without leaving his mark on all of us. FPTN went to emergency status and thanks to W4SME was probably the first net to attempt to help move traffic. A mighty effort was mounted by many hams and interested persons all over the state and also from outside of the state. The job is not done and possibly only started but at least some of the government agencies are now getting their act together. Many thanks to "Doc" W4SME for getting the effort on the road.

Due to Andrew there were many interested stations checking in to FPTN. During Aug. there were 146 different stations that made contact with FPTN. This figure accounts for 12.3% of our total checkins. Normally these travelers run about 7 to 9%. There was a great deal of interest from all adjacent states.

Twenty four stations check in 80% or better and this constitutes 51% of the total net. However eight stations check in 100% as follows: KO4DR, WA4EIC, N4GMU, K2GNZ, KB4MON, K4SJA, W4SME, and WA9VND. This group represents 17% of net roster. Band conditions, QRM and deliberate interference did at some times make for difficult copy and causes the brow to perspire.

This months effort was not a simulated emergency test but the real thing and I am so glad our net members had the training necessary, had past experience on emergency nets, and could keep their cool in the face of the difficulties experienced as they attempted to keep communications open and working.

I'll bet the Melbourne Hamfest will bring out some real stories. Hope to see you there.

73 - Bill WB4WYG

SWFTN

August was a good month for the traffic net. We didn't set any records but we did hold our own and that's a lot to say for any traffic net this time of year. What with so many people on vacations or spending the summer up north or just having a lot to do that seems more important than the traffic net, I think we did pretty well for ourselves. We had some very small and very short nets and we had some very good ones. The important thing is that we did have them and we did the job we were supposed to do. Who could ask for more?

People will be returning to Lee County pretty soon. A lot of them indicate that they will stick it out up north until November but that first good cold snap will send a lot of them back to the winter playground. Our checkins will return to normal and the traffic count will pick up.

Hurricane Andrew did not place much of a burden on the net, and we can be thankful that it didn't place a burden on us. H & W traffic has been pretty slight through the net but very heavy into the stricken areas. We may be able to help when the networks get rolling down there and communications are better established. We are prepared to do what is necessary.

I am typing this with one eye because I had a cataract removed this afternoon so it is kind of strange seeing it with only one eye. Before I write the next newsletter for September I will have had my vacation and will be back and rarin' to go.

73s to all - Earl, K4FQU, Net Manager

FLORIDA ARMY MARS NEWS
by Lorraine S. Matthew/AAM3PR

In my column for the June issue, I wrote about Army MARS members and the Field Day exercises in which many of us participated. Little did anyone know that that practice would become such a valuable asset to a large segment of Florida's population. Little did anyone guess the extent of the total devastation that has been suffered by South Florida.

At this writing, Florida Army MARS is just beginning its role in serving the population at large. Being a Federal agency, Army MARS, like all Federal agencies, must wait until it is asked for assistance by the local, county, state, or regional authorities. By regulation, the civilian assets must be exhausted before Federal agencies can come in. What seemed like a delay in response, therefore, is written into the law of the land. Historically, it is a provision which protects the civilian population from Federal or military intrusion into their lives. Such acts as the British forcibly housing its troops in private homes during our colonial period created the groundwork against which this provision was included in our Constitution. It is interesting that President Bush had to address this delay in several of his news conferences.

In spite of the apparent delay, AAR4CSS Unit 1 was the first mobile communications center to arrive in the Miami area. Its specific mission was to give communications support to law enforcement agencies in the devastated area. It also has given excellent support to the DMAT teams dispatched to the area. (DMAT is the acronym for Disaster Medical Assistance Team.) AAR4CSS is the Army MARS call of the Silver Springs Amateur Radio Club. This call became well known during the Gulf War for their ability to provide clear phone patch capability, using their huge "Big Foot" rhombic antenna. Their home station in Ocala has now become the base of operations outside of the South Florida area. Upon the declaration of the emergency net, AAA4FL/E, AAR4CSS was named to be net control of the net at all times. How is this possible? The club includes enough skilled Army MARS members that no one operator is called upon to serve long periods of time. They, each, are doing excellent jobs as NCS operators. I salute the Silver Springs Amateur Radio Club for their willingness to donate the use of much equipment and personnel both at home and at the remote sites needed to serve the people of South Florida best.

Day by day, teams of skilled people arrive in South Florida determined to help the survivors of Hurricane Andrew cope with the total devastation around them. As I write this, Navy ships carrying loads of supplies have docked in Miami. The interstates are carrying convoys of supplies, people and equipment. The outpouring of concern from all over the country is most heartening.

As early as August 26, Florida Army MARS has a team ready to deploy to the Key West Airport. They had been asked to provide a dedicated frequency for the airlines flying relief to the area. The airplanes needed flight following services and information for pilots going into and out of Key West Airport. These services had been requested by the National Weather Service and the Federal Aviation Administration. This project had the full support of the airport manager and the tower chief. Students at the University of Central Florida, with their Army MARS station packed, were ready to leave when the call came that enough of the lines and circuits had been restored that the services requested would not be needed after all. They had been ready, Jim/AAT4RD, Assistant State MARS Director had been ready, and Commair, a Delta connection airline, had been ready to fly them to Key West and to provide everything that they needed at no expense.

AAR4CSS - Unit 1 was dispatched about midnight of the same night. They arrived in the Miami area and were set up to operate the following evening. Since that time, they have send several relief units down to be of help.

George/AAR4TZ spent Friday at the Port St. Lucie Airport setting up a remote station for coordination with the State Law



Dick Hill, WA4PFK, presents Gordon Barnes, KO4HP, with a certificate for the Ft. Myers ARC showing ARRL affiliation for 25 years plus. (Photo by WB4LPX)

Enforcement Agencies. The dipole that he put on the roof of the building worked well and remained there even after he had been relieved by other Army MARS Operators.

The HF bands decided to enter a long path mode which really disrupted communications. As a net control station, I was really impressed by the support and relays that Florida received from Army MARS stations in North Carolina and Tennessee. Frank/AAT4YS, an Army MARS member from North Carolina, did a fantastic job for us on several nets. This interstate support is a trademark of Army MARS, indeed, of all the MARS programs. This cooperation is a feature of which MARS can be proud.

The Gulf Coast DMAT team had flown to the area and checked in on the emergency frequency by midday on the 29th. They, too, use MARS operators (2 Army - RW/AAR4XX, Dale/AAT4QV and 1 Air Force - Steve/AFA2WG). they reported treating as many as 400 patients in a 24 hour period. At least six other DMAT teams were also working in the zone of destruction. AAR6CAA and a second unit came all the way from New Mexico.

Jim/AAR4LB, himself, recovering from the storm, reported to the EOC and HRS units and is still serving as a communicator for them.

Not all MARS members can be deployed to a disaster area. What were the rest of us doing? Some of us have been assigned to monitor the emergency frequencies and ended up taking traffic and/or relaying information. Some have had to be content to wait until an opportunity arose to serve. This service, of course, comes in addition to the responsibilities that we already carry. Army MARS staff, led by Florida State Army MARS Director, Bert Fow/AAA4FL, has spent untold hours coordinating the many logistics of disaster communications.

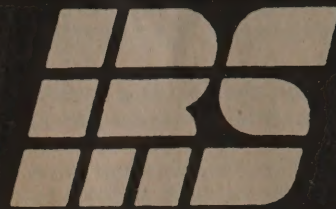
Waiting is the hardest part for the group of highly trained operators that constitute Army MARS. As I write this, however, Army MARS has only seen the very beginning of its work. If Hugo is any criteria, the real work of communication comes much later as families gather to get their health and welfare traffic out.

Florida Army MARS has set up a frequency, separate from the emergency frequency, to use for morale traffic and for the passing of general information. In this way, genuine emergency traffic is separated from routine traffic. I am told that the volume will build and all the Army MARS members will be kept quite busy.

Churchill once made a speech in which he said, "They also serve who stand and wait." MARS members everywhere are serving — some in active capacities, others in a waiting mode. I am proud to serve with you all.

MARS - QSY to page 10

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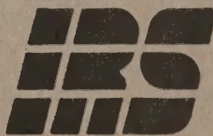
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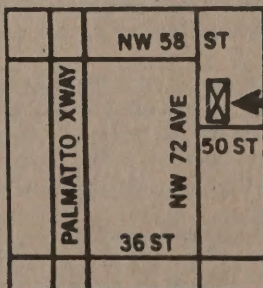


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QCWA, Inc.

FLORIDA Q.C.W.A. NEWS
Edited by Eli Nannis, K4JMH

FLORIDA STATE QCWA NEWS Edited by Eli Nannis K4JMH

President Harry Dannals W2HD has been making the major conventions and he is working hard to promote the elmering effort. Maybe we'll see him at the Boston convention in October. Jim Walsh W7LVN has also been busy attending conventions including the big Dayton convention. Every ham should attend the Dayton convention at least once as it will amaze you with its size and many special meetings. The Lee De Forest chapter members have been active in giving training classes and examinations. This might be a good project for some of our Florida chapters. The QCWA luncheon at the Midwest ARRL convention brought an attendance of 52. Two new directors will join the Board at the beginning of next month. Arch Doty K8CFU and Jack Troster W6ISQ will join us at Scottsdale. We lost two board members, John Weber and El Charlton. Ethel Smith K4LMB will take one of the vacant positions on the board. It is anticipated that each member of the board will serve on two committees. One important subject to be discussed is whether we should have advertising in the QCWA Journal. You might send your thoughts on this subject to our head office.

PALM BEACH CHAPTER

The July meeting was held at our usual time at the Piccadilly in Lake Park. There were 18 members and guests to enjoy our luncheon and meeting. The highlight of the meeting was the awarding of 15 Golden certificates to eligible members. 70 year awards were given to Len Jezorek W4LC and Norm Weible K4HE. Congratulations to all the recipients and may they enjoy many more years of Amateur Radio with QCWA. Our annual election of officers is coming up soon. Our next meeting will be at the Piccadilly in Lake Park on August 31.

Reported by Bob McDow W4KOG

PELICAN CHAPTER

During the summer months the Pelican chapter has had two of its stalwart members in the hospital for serious surgery. Don W4PCO and Jim K4FCW were patients. They both have now recovered and are attending meetings. We are saddened to report that Reg K4QZ still remains in the Passadena Manor nursing home. Reg is currently the Pelican's oldest licensed member. We are again planning a fall picnic at Lake Seminole Park, the date for this affair will be on November 20th. All QCWA members, guests and friends are encouraged to attend. The menu will be fried chicken, scalloped potatoes, corn on the cob, fresh garden salad, dessert, tea and coffee and prizes, all this for a donation of \$7.50 each. ALL READERS PLEASE NOTE: The Pelican and Gator chapters are working diligently on plans for the 1993 QCWA NATIONAL CONVENTION. We know that we have a great hotel, the weather in Florida will be warm and that you will enjoy a visit to St. Petersburg and Clearwater on October 29-30, 1993. Hope to see you all there.

There were 18 members and guests at our meeting on August 19 at the Home Style Restaurant in St. Petersburg. We welcomed our newest Pelican member KR8G, Bob Kleiber. Bob was retired from WLW and WLWT in Cincinnati, Ohio. He will be featured as our program at our September 16th meeting. Our chapter net operates on 145.29 at 10 AM every Saturday morning. The QCWA net operates on 3955 KHz on Saturday at 8 AM and 7274 KHz on Wednesday mornings at 10 AM. My wife and I are looking forward to attending the QCWA National Convention at Scottsdale, AZ. Our member Gil Pearsall W8HEZ has recently underwent an eye implant

and a hip replacement. We all wish him a quick recovery. Don Pice W4PCO is collecting empty pill bottles. They are needed for the St. Petersburg Free Clinic. He has saved over \$150 for the clinic and this would be a good project for other chapters.

Reported by Jay Strom K9BSL

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

There were 19 members and guests at our regular monthly meeting at Denny's on N.W. 36th Street on Saturday, August 15. President John Beck W4COG presided. We were saddened to learn that John Grunbok W4DLT suffered a severe stroke and is now in a nursing home. John was first licensed in 1931 as W2DLT. We all hope for a speedy recovery. Andy Clark W4IYT announced that he is stepping down as ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Dade County after 43 years of dedicated service. We are all very familiar with Andy's untiring efforts as EC through countless hurricanes and emergencies in Dade County and Norm Ward (QCWA) K4RBR has been nominated to succeed Andy. Harry Pilafian W4SQG showed part one of a two part video tracing the progress and development of Dade County from the 1940's thru to the 80's. The video was extremely interesting and we are all anxious to see part two which will be shown at our next monthly meeting. Our chapter meets every 3rd Saturday at Denny's Restaurant on N.W. 36th Street. Meetings start at 12:30 P.M. Guests are cordially welcome.

Reported by Sid Wolfeld KJ4AS

PALM BEACH CHAPTER

We had our regular monthly meeting on the 25th of August at the Piccadilly Restaurant in Lake Park. Because of the storm in Dade County a number of members were unable to attend but the meeting was enjoyed by all in attendance. A very interesting talk was given by Henry Felton WA4HXZ on the operation of one of the local VHF repeaters which uses a number of remote receivers linked to a central transmitter on UHF. The arrangements works very nicely and offers a number of advantages over the normal setup. We were advised by the management of Piccadilly that the restaurant was going to cease at the end of the month. We have made arrangements to hold the next month's meeting at the dining room of the North Palm Beach Country Club on Sept. 29 at our regular 11:30 AM time. No commitment has been made for this location on a permanent basis and we will discuss our future at this meeting. The annual elections are due to be held at the next meeting. Our nomination committee has been working hard to come up with a good slate for the next year. Come and be prepared to get involved in the election of next years office.

Reported by Bob McDow W4KOG

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FLORIDA AIR FORCE M.A.R.S. NEWS

by David J. Sweeney, AFA2YB

The damage reports coming from the Dade County areas affected by hurricane Andrew indicate that the devastation is beyond description. Complete details are not yet known as to the full impact on communications in the area. Several AFMARS affiliates are in operating from the area. Those that I am aware of are: AFA2QT, Michael Casey; AFA2KH, Ernest Feist; and AFA2CT, Joel Katz. I am sure there are others who have traveled to the Dade County area to provide support. The USAF MARS REGION TWO Roster shows eleven affiliates live in the Miami area and we hope they are all well and are recovering from the effects of the hurricane.

A reminder of the Broward Navy Days coming up in October. Affiliates are needed to man AGA2PE and AFMARS Military station that will be in operation from 6 thru 21 October 1992. This station will be activated to support the 12 to 15 thousand military personnel expected to take part. If you can lend a hand please contact Joel Katz, AFA2CT of Hollywood, Florida. Two US Navy aircraft carriers will be in Port Everglades from October 8 thru 19 along with many other Navy ships. There will also be an amateur radio special event station N4ORN and KB4KXV in operation from the same location. They will offer a special QSL card commemorating Navy Days. You can find them on 10 and 20 meters. Officials are expecting forty to fifty thousand spectators to attend the festivities.



THE OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB Florida Chapter

Director: Bob Bookwalter, W4NWF
728 Valencia Rd., Venice, FL
813/485-7928

As the word gets around, activity is increasing on the two OOTC nets (combined with QCWA): Wednesdays, 1000L, 7274khz; Saturdays, 0800L, 3955khz. Check in and you'll probably find some of your old pals. If you join OOTC you'll get the official publication, Spark Gap Times, chock full of stories about the "golden days" of radio plus features on veteran hams. Check with W4NWF for details.

Would readers of this column like feature stories about notable Florida hams? If you know somebody that should be featured please let W4NWF, or the Scribe, know so follow up can be made. We're sure readers would enjoy details and a photo of such individuals. There's many an untold story out there, we're sure, concerning early ham activities. Did anyone work DXCC prior to WW II? What were your results with loop modulation? Did you really just run a KW to that 204A? Do you remember phone on the low 50khz of 80 meters? Do you remember 160 meters being the backbone of phone operation back in the '30s? Remember super-regeneration? Send in some of your tales and get them into print. Ham radio didn't used to be all push-buttons!!

With the hamfests coming along look for the OT's. Those involved in the hamfests might have a place to register and gather... how about along with the QCWA guys at their booths? Meanwhile, let's locate old pals on the OOTC nets.

"Communications is something so simple and difficult that we can never put it in simple words" — T.S. Matthews

Jim Gundry, W4JMJ, Chapter Scribe



THE PANHANDLE AT A GLANCE

by "Matt" Matthew - KC4RKJ

In August we experienced one of the worst hurricanes in American history, if not the worst. It is time to think about the future. It has been said that if the destructive effects of the San Francisco Earthquake, Hurricane Camille, and Hurricane Hugo were combined, the total effects would be less than 1/3 the destruction caused by Hurricane Andrew.

It is human nature to sit back and say, "It's all over; so why worry?" Many people were concerned when it appeared possible that the storm could swing further north into the Ft. Walton Beach or Pensacola areas.

With every disaster, hurricane, earthquake, fire, or chemical spills which puts dangerous fumes in the air, we have evidence that people under stress often carry unusual things to safety rather than items that will be needed.

Do you have any pre-planning at your home? What will you take with you? Start a checklist of items to be evacuated now! Include everything you can think of that should be done or taken before you forget. While this is still fresh in your mind, remember what you may have thought about in the recent storm period concerning evacuation. You will find that you will add things later that occur to you. Maybe you didn't think about it at all which may be worse in the long run.

I got an idea when listening to HAMS I know in the Miami area who quickly got back on the air because they had cranked up towers. This is interesting when you are reminded that trees taller than 4 or 5 feet tall are down and telephone poles are broken off or pulled over all around.

Have you thought where you are going to escape the storm and do you have the gas tank full?

You might look at your vehicle as a place to put your radio, power supply, computer, etc. while maybe someone else in the family is looking to put other items in the same space.

Have you even thought about your radio license in addition to all those other documents what will be necessary while you are gone, not to mention if your house is demolished?

Remember that you may want to cover your windows and turn off electricity and gas.

Get all of this down on paper so you can check it off as you complete each item. In the state of emergency you might not think as well. Even the best of the fighter or airline pilots who are trained and drilled use check lists.

The Panhandle citizens should be proud of the fact that local HAMS worked as communicators for the local DMAT teams. Dale (N4SGQ), Steve (N4GXX) and RW (N4RNV) were deployed to the Miami area.

We also had local HAMS manning various Army and Air Force MARS emergency frequencies.

Many more amateur operators spent countless hours taking and delivering Health and Welfare traffic out of the disaster areas. ARES and RACES members manned various nets passing priority messages and Health and Welfare messages. The September issue of the Printed Circuit, which is the



Prior to leaving the area, PCARS/HARC team members from the first team down took additional radio equipment to fellow PARCS & HARC member Clayton Bennett KA4NHW (left). Clayton was activated with the 705th Military Police National Guard unit. Upon arriving in Homestead, FL he was assigned the duty providing ham radio Communications for the military in the area. Clayton had only a handheld and a D cell battery pack which was running out of juice when the team arrived with additional radios, antenna, coax and power supply. Don Winn AF4Z is shown helping Clayton check out the Equipment.

(photo by John Weatherly AB4ET.)

PCARS AND HARC TEAM AMONG FIRST OPERATING IN MIAMI Gerry Wentz (KC4EHT) Florida Skip Correspondent

With the threat of Hurricane Andrew hitting Brevard County passed, the hams breathed a sign of relief. Little did they realize that Doc Staples (W4SME), Senior Net Control Operator of the Florida Emergency Net had another operation in mind; grab your gear and get your able bodies to South Florida and help out. Word filtered out of Dade County indicated that the devastation inflicted by the storm was even greater than anticipated and radio communications was minimal to non-existent. The volunteers who normally would be able to quickly establish emergency communications were themselves victims of the destruction. There was only one marginally useful repeater.

The EOC in an attempt to gain the upper hand in a situation that was chaotic at best, requested that hams receive prior authorization before entering the affected areas and try to have a minimum of four-man teams.

Doc Staples issued an appeal for help on the Florida Emergency Net and the response was instant enthusiasm. George Kremkau (N5AUV) and this writer were appointed by the good Doctor to coordinate teams of amateur-radio operators planning to head for Miami. Doc cautioned, "Any hams entertaining the idea of going to the area should be physically fit, be self sufficient for days, and provide their own transportation." Survival conditions were the order of the day.

The President of the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (PCARS) was notified of the seriousness of the situation in South Florida and we proceeded to assemble teams to dispatch to Miami. Gap Antenna Products of Vero Beach was contacted and they immediately donated two of their excellent multiband vertical antennas. Ryder Truck Rental donated a truck to be used to transport equipment and Publix Supermarkets supplied purified water and ice. The response of the amateur-radio community was nothing less than remarkable given that many volunteers would have to bear the costs of the trip as well as lose vacation days or even pay from their regular jobs. Not an attractive proposition for anyone but a dedicated ham.

Just a few hours after the volunteer effort was put into motion, the President of PCARS, John Weatherley (AB4ET), notified the coordinating team that he had contacted the Harris Amateur Radio Club (HARC) and he had a team of PCARS and HARC amateurs, fully equipped and ready to go. This was a pleasant surprise to George and I since we had not specifically requested the President to form the group.

Evelyn Gauzens (W4WYR), the Vice Director Southeast Division ARRL, and who was coordinating amateur-radio aid activities with the Dade County EOC had indicated that there was a desperate need for a repeater in the area. It was decided to dismantle the PCARS Club repeater and take it down to the stricken area. In just a few short, and critical hours, the PCARS/HARC team was on its way to Miami.

Evelyn (W4WYR) arranged for the team to set up in the nearby convent school of St. Michael the Archangel a couple of miles south of Miami International Airport.

Within two hours of arrival the team:

- Removed the power company meter at W4WYR's house and connected the house wiring to one of our generators. This had her back on the air on the hurricane net along with operating fans, lights and refrigerator.
- Installed the other generator at the convent, ran the power cables and got lights installed.
- Installed the HF and three VHF stations in the convent.
- Erected HF and VHF antennas on the roof including a 14 element yagi.
- Established voice and data links with PCARS club station in Melbourne on HF and VHF and with the principle emergency nets, the Dade E.O.C. and Dade Red Cross on VHF FM.

Later when the HF station went down they replaced the power supply with one from a VHF station and had it operating again in little more than one minute. Was this just a matter of luck, I don't think so! The operators who achieved this had Know-how:

- They were all regular Field Day participants! They knew how to set up communications in the field, in a hurry.
- Knew how to operate under difficult conditions.
- Knew the basics of good operating and traffic handling.
- Knew how to make antennas work.
- Knew how to handle portable generators.
- Knew radio and electrical fundamentals and had a good practical knowledge from home construction and troubleshooting.
- All of their equipment regardless of make or model, HF or VHF used the PCARS 12-volt power interface. (Yes HARC uses the same standard as PCARS). Everyone's radios and accessories would operate on any one else's power supply. No wire cutting or splicing. No worries about polarity. Just plug in and operate. It worked just the way it was intended.

It is important to point out the fact that the two organizations (PCARS and HARC) are constantly reminding their members that "being prepared" is not just a Boy Scout motto but a vital part of emergency preparedness. Hopefully other organizations are taking the same approach. This writer feels that there has been an alarming trend for field-day exercises to focus more on points totals while shortcutting, or even avoiding, the fundamentals of operating under emergency conditions.

Even though the team leader John (AB4ET) felt that the team encountered minimal difficulties in operating under the adverse conditions, there were still many lessons to be learned. He said, "I think it provides a powerful incentive to upgrade, do some home construction, operate some HF traffic nets,

QSY TO PAGE 15

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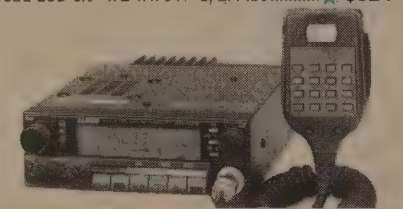
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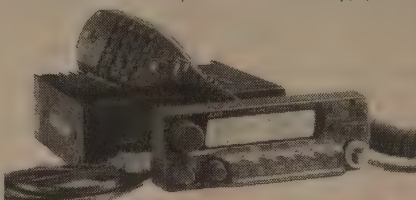


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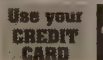


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Tallahassee ARC newsletter, has a lengthy list of people who manned the monitoring stations during the Miami emergency. Some of these are Bob (WN4IIV), Bob (W4WSZ), Paulette (KD4MOK), Susie (LD4MOH), Bob (KD4MNY), George (W4MLE), Ted (W1XO), Michael (N4JEL), Tom (K9RXG), Kimo (WD4HW), Hy (KB4ZHY), Tom (W1EOH), Bill (N4QNF), Jeff (N4TRY), Karen KD4MON), Matt (KC4WCG) and Jimmy (WR4Z) and others.

We are sorry to hear that a HAM who had picked up his station and had gone down to the Miami area to set up a station died there when hit by lightning.

Isn't it a shame that the public doesn't realize the thousands of hours given by the Amateur Radio Community to the Military, Police and communities in this disaster.

We can learn a lot from this unfortunate event both as individual amateur operators and as members of the various organizations that took part in passing traffic. We need to think or talk over the problems encountered, work out simple solutions and prepare a standard operation procedure to follow in future disasters. As part of that standard operating procedure, everyone should have his or her own assigned responsibilities.

In a late news item, which is important to all Packet stations throughout the U.S.A., is the fact that the ARRL is going to review its position on automatic forwarding on the HF frequencies. Without the automatic forwarding, traffic on packet would die. You may not realize that even if you never operate on HF packet your ability to send message via 2M packet cross country would not be viable. The HF link takes care of the long distance hop which in effect allows you to get 2M messages cross country.

KNIGHTS OF THE KILOCYCLE

3910 Kc. Sunday Morn. 1130 Z - 0730 EDT

I hope everyone out there didn't get messed up too much by Andrew!!! We had all the boards up here and all the stuff stored inside out of the weather. We didn't take the beam and tower down but we prayed a lot and so we were probably as well prepared for the hurricane as well as most, and maybe more than average. The facts are, with all we did if it had come thru here nothing would have helped!!!

I got a letter from Charles Chapman, W4SVB a couple of weeks ago. He has just had a pacemaker implanted and is doing fine. He is getting ready to move into a new home. (No antenna allowed, of course). Charles hasn't been checking in lately, but he wanted to say hello to all and let everyone know he is monitoring when possible and tries to keep up with the goings on of the Knights. I don't have his new address yet. When I get it I'll put it in the column so you can send a QSL.

The Hamfest season will be in full swing by the time you read this. Melbourne will be past and we'll be looking forward to the BIG ONE in West Palm Beach. I hope to see you all in Melbourne but if not, please look for me in West Palm where I'll have a prominent table full of all kinds of goodies.

We have quite a number of birthdays in the last couple of months: K8RIF, K4OEP, N4SMH, W4SVB, W4KOG, W4GUJ, W4TZ, N4SDV and W4DNS. A lot of familiar calls in there, I hope Eula and Creed are getting along well as all the rest also. The anniversary wishes for the same period go to K4AAP, W4SVB, W4JJK, KN4JM, K7DWT, WB9GCH and W4DGS. The best to all and many more to come...

Net meeting No. 3000 is coming up on the 1st of November. Let's make this a net to recall. Try to spread the word and get all the Knights who have been somewhat slack to check in on Nov. 1 to renew old acquaintances and let us know how you're doing. We would SO MUCH like to hear from ALL OF YOU!!!

73 & 88, Bob McDow, W4KOG



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All of the team members were in agreement with AB4ET when he stated, "We and everyone else involved in emergency preparedness have got to re-examine our operations and many of the books will have to be re-written following hurricane Andrew."

I hope that if nothing else, this disaster has erased any remaining ideas that hurricanes are over-rated and don't really present a serious threat. If anyone still doesn't believe it, take a trip to Homestead."

The PCARS/HARC quick response and valuable contribution in establishing emergency communications in Miami is a credit not only to the participating clubs but to the overall concept of amateur radio. It may also demonstrate the feasibility of "Jump Teams", who are continually in a state of readiness to assist in neighboring communities, counties or even states. Perhaps in licking our wounds from one of the greatest natural disasters in the history of Florida will come some dramatic and/or revolutionary changes to our emergency procedures that could set an example for the rest of the nation.



Don Winn AF4Z, of the PCARS6HARC team Melbourne, FL operating one of three packet stations the team brought with them. The team used one packet station to pass traffic via the W7LUS BBS and another on the DX Packet Cluster to maintain contact with the hams back in Melbourne during Hurricane ANDREW. (Photo by Jan Heise WA4VQD)

FCC PETITION AND COMMENT PROCEDURES - PART 2

by Carl Zelich, AA4MI

AARL Assistant Director, SE Division

Well, my last article on how to prepare Comments in response to a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) certainly brought in the mail! I now know that there were very few hams who actually knew "how to file Comments".

The problem most often mentioned is that usually the Comment Period has expired before hams have a chance to read the NPRM! How true; how true it is.

In talking with my friends at the FCC in Washington, they said there are a couple of solutions:

First, the FREE method: All Notices of Inquiry (NOI) and NPRMs are printed in the Federal Register. This is done after they are released by the FCC. The Federal Register can be read and copied at most public libraries! Just get yourself or your club's newsletter editor down to the library. It's free and all it takes is some legwork! It's also a good idea to bring a magnifying glass, too. (Either the prints getting smaller or I need longer arms.)

Second, the NOT FREE method has 2 ways you can go: First, You can contact the FCC's duplicating contractor: the Downtown Copy Center (DCC), at 202 452-1422. The DCC can sell you copies.

Second, you can write to the FCC Consumer Assistance and Information Division, 1919 M St., N.W. Washington, D.C. Or Call them at 202 632-7000 or 202 632-7260. Ask them for a list of distributors of NOIs and NPRMs. You can check their prices and arrange with them to send you the info!

There were some general questions about "what do I SAY in my Comments to the FCC?" It seems like a few people have difficulty in how to say what they mean. Here are a few guidelines:

Make your comments specific. If the details or only part of the proposed rule upsets you, make it clear which ones they are. If certain modifications would make it acceptable by you, explain why the changes are necessary.

The FCC is interested in your experiences and insights that might shed some light on the issues raised in a NOI or NPRM. Tell them about anything that has happened to you that would support your comments.

Explain who you are. Clearly identify your certifications, professional or otherwise, that support your position. If you're a professional engineer, say so. If you're a ham, let them know what license class and how many years you've been licensed.

Your comments should include facts that might support other people's or organization's position. Explain why "In the Public Interest", the matter should be resolved as you propose. "In the Public Interest" is the most powerful phrase that you can possibly use. It shows that you are not just thinking of yourself but the public-at-large.

Submit your written comments to: Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554 before the Comment Period ends. This is crucial; observe the deadline. Seldom does the FCC accept late comments. But if they get swamped by late comments, they sometimes will extend the Comment Period.

If you want your comments to be received as a formal filing, you must submit an original and 5 copies.

If you want to submit an informal comment, just send 1 copy.

You will read about different numbers of copies required. This has varied over the years. I always send an original and 11 copies. This means that every one of the FCC Commissioners will get a copy of my comments. Even if the FCC process only needs 8 or 9 copies, I want to be sure that no Commissioner is left out. After all, if your taking the time to prepare comments, what's a few more copying-charge pennies to make certain you are heard!

And don't forget, always send a copy to ARRL Headquarters, your Division Director and Vice-Director. They care about your feelings and opinions. Their addresses are on page 6 of every QST.

I hope these words of wisdom will help you become more active in responding to the NOIs and NPRMs. 73 AR

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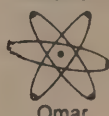
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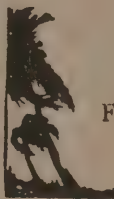
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F.C.C. INFORMATION PAGE

AUBURNDALE AREA

W5YI exams, technical through extra, are to be held on the third Saturday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. They will be held in the First Presbyterian Church on 410 Pukalakaha Avenue (PK Avenue), Auburndale, Florida. Between Winter Haven and Lakeland on Highway 92. Turn off 92nd on Ariana Avenue, go two stop signs and turn left on PK Avenue. It's the second building on right.

Walk-ins accepted on test available basis. Reservations requested. There is a fee of \$5.25 for tech through extra.

For information contact: Pete Salvage at (813) 646-2526 or Bill Loop at (813) 967-5952.

BREVARD COUNTY

ARRL/VEC exams by Consolidated V.E.'s of Brevard County — Room Q-22 — Florida Institute of Technology — Melbourne — 10:00 a.m. (check-in 0930) — third Saturday of every month.

No pre-registration required. Form 610 provided. Bring original and photocopy of current license.

HAIALEAH

W5YI coordinated FCC tests. Novice through extra. Due to space limitations, pre-registration is required. Contact Ivan Prada, KP4EDL at (305) 829-0602 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Exams are every third Saturday of the month. Fee is \$5.25. Novice candidates are free.

SUNRISE

CAVEC exams by Racal-Milgo in Sunrise twice per month; on the first Saturday at 8:45 a.m. and on the third Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at 1601 N.W. 136th Avenue (North Harrison Parkway).

No pre-registration required.

Bring: the original and one copy of your license, the original of any credit certificate (or copy of FCC Form 610 for novice credit), proof of identity (driver's license with photo, etc.) and \$2 (except novice which is free).

For further information call: Chip Allen, AK4Y at his home at 476-8761; or Joe Loewy, KB4FO either at his home 434-8211 or work 846-4567. For 24-hour recorded information call 846-4444.

Talk-in on 145.270 (Tx 600 KHz).

CITRUS COUNTY

License exams are scheduled for the third Saturday in the odd numbered months at 8:30 a.m. at the Citrus County Emergency Operations Center on West Southern Street in Lecanto. (West off C.R. 491, one-quarter mile north of S.R. 44.)

Reservations preferred, walk-ins accepted while supplies last. Bring original ham license and photocopy, certificates for prior exam credits if any, photo identification as driver's license, pen & pencils and \$5.25 fee. Phone Dwight, KJ4AP, (904) 746-4306 for reservations and information.

DADE CITY

W5YI exams — novice, tech and extra — are given on the third Tuesday in Dade City High School at 6:30 p.m.

Bring original or photocopy of current license, any CSCE, two picture-type identifications and \$5.25. 610's provided.

For details call: Slim Franklin, AB4OC at (904) 583-2856.

DADE CITY AREA

W5YI exams — technician through extra class (novice exams by reservation only) — are conducted the third Wednesday of each month except December, in the Tampa Electric Company, Community Room, 602 East Meridian Avenue (two blocks east of Highway 301) in Dade City, Florida at 6:30 p.m.

Bring the original and a photocopy of your current license, any CSCE and a \$5.00 fee.

Form 610 will be furnished and pre-registration is recommended. Exams by appointment will be conducted for those persons with special needs.

Contact Dan Wilson, AB4LN at (904) 521-3494 or (904) 583-5120 evenings and weekends for further information.

DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Exams for all license classes are held at E.O.C., 5600 S.W. 87th Ave., Miami, FL 33173. **2nd Sat.** 9:00 AM. There is no preregistration. Arrive 15 minutes early.

BRING THE ORIGINAL AND A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR CURRENT LICENSE. ORIGINAL OF ANY CSCE'S HELD. PHOTO IDENTIFICATION, pen and pencil and check or money order for \$5.40 payable to ARRL/VEC. A non-programmable scientific calculator is permitted. FCC Form 610 is provided.

Further information contact Ross Urwin, AC4KZ 233-7462 evenings.

FT. PIERCE • PORT ST. LUCIE • ST. LUCIE COUNTY

The Ft. Pierce Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring ARRL/VEC exams on the fourth Saturday of each month. Location is the St. Anastasia School, 401 South 33rd Street in Ft. Pierce. From I-95, take Orange Avenue East Exit, go to the first traffic light and turn right. Church and school is just before the traffic light on 33rd Street.)

Bring the original and one copy of your license, the original and copy of credit certificate and identification.

Register at 9:00 a.m. and the test will begin at 9:30 a.m.

For further details call: Fred Neumann at (407) 340-1069 or Bill Shishler at (407) 466-5548.

F.C.C. LINES

W5YI coordinated tests — novice through extra — every third Saturday of the month at 8:00 p.m.

Limited space available, so you need to call to reserve space. Sessions are small... no more than 15 candidates at a time.

New 1992 fee is \$5.40.

Contact Ivan Prada at 829-0602 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. only, or in packet KP4EDL @ KP4EDL.No.: ARCLFL.USA.NA.

MARION COUNTY FLORIDA

W5YI exams. Novice through Extra, will be given the second Monday of every month at 7:30 pm sharp. Walk ins welcome. Location is the Green Clover Hall in the Marion County Government Complex, off Rt. 40 on Fort King and 25th Avenue Ocala, Florida

Talk in on K4GSO repeater - 146.610. Bring photo ID, original and copy of License held. For information contact Jack (904) 622-4447 - N4NWT or Paul (904) 489-9666 - AB4QD.

HERNANDO COUNTY EXAMS

The Hernando Volunteer Examining Council (HERVEC) with Clover Leaf ARC and Spring Hill ARC co-sponsors are conducting monthly exams novice through extra, each third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at Springfield High School in Spring Hill. The Clover Leaf Visitor's Center in Brooksville is the alternate exam site.

Walk-ins are welcome.

For information contact Paul Sauer, K4ZC at (904) 683-3167.

LAKE COUNTY, CENTRAL FLORIDA

W5YI VEC exams will be held on the third Saturday of each month in 1992. Test time is 9:30 a.m. The location is the Lake Amateur Radio Association Clubhouse just west of Tavares, Florida. Go two miles west of Tavares on U.S. Highway 441 to CR 473. North one mile on CR 473 to the Haines Creek Baptist Church. The clubhouse and 180-foot tower are behind the church.

Walk-ins permitted. Bring a copy of ham license, copies of any certificates of successful completion of exam and positive identification. Cost is \$5.40 for 1992.

Talk-in on 147.255, K4FC, repeater.

Contact Paul, K3NON at (904) 343-8729 for more information.

NORTH DADE • SOUTH BROWARD AREA

FCC exams are given on the fourth Thursday of each month by a W5YI-VEC team at 5:30 p.m. prior to the regular monthly meeting of the Fellowship Amateur Radio Club at 501 S.E. 1st Avenue in Hallandale at City Park.

No charge for novice... all others \$5.40.

Please bring the original of your license and a photocopy, and positive identification.

For more information call Howard, N4EBT at (305) 935-5214 or Norm, K4RBR at (305) 829-5437 (evenings).

OCALA/CENTRAL FLORIDA

W5YI exams are held each month (except November and December) on the last Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 2802 N.E. 7th Street, Ocala, Florida.

All exams, novice through extra, are given on a walk-in basis. Fee is \$4.75. Novices are free. Talk-in is available on 145.130 repeater.

For information contact Jim, KA2MBE at (904) 236-0744; or Joe, KA4WJB at (904) 351-0985.

PALM BEACH AREA

The Palm Beach Amateur Radio Council and Palm Beach Community College Amateur Radio Club are giving amateur radio license tests on the third Saturday of each month (except October is at hamfest) at 9:00 a.m. at Palm Beach Community College, 4200 Congress Avenue, Lake Worth, in Criminal Justice Room 101, for \$5.25 in 1991 (I-95 and Sixth Avenue South and go west).

Walk-ins permitted as long as we have test materials available.

October is on Saturday and Sunday at 9:00 a.m. at Palm Beach County Hamfest at South Florida Fair Grounds on State Road 80 (Southern Boulevard) — west of Turnpike (no exit).

BOCA RATON

The Siemens Amateur Radio Club sponsors ARRL/VEC coordinated exams the third Friday every month at 17:30 hours, except December which will be the second Friday. The tests will be given at the Spanish River High School, 5100 Jog Road, Room 8207, Boca Raton.

Pre-registration is recommended, but walk-ins are accepted if testing materials are available. Novice exams are free... all others are \$4.96.

Bring a photo identification, your original license and a copy and the original and a copy of any CSCE's. All forms are provided.

Contact Ron Diego at (407) 994-7168 during business hours or (407) 487-1726 evenings and weekends for more information or to pre-register.

WEST PASCO COUNTY

The Suncoast Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring W5YI-VEC exam sessions on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The exam location is the Pasco County building, 530 Sunset Road, New Port Richey (just east of U.S. 19 — one mile south of the Pithlachascotee River Bridge).

Pre-registration is strongly advised, and the deadline is the Saturday preceding the exam date, thereafter, walk-ins will be accepted on a materials availability basis.

Talk-in on 145.350 (Tx-400).

Remember to bring with you, two forms of identification, originals and copies of your license and CSCE's if any and the \$5.40 fee required for the technical through extra exams.

For registration and/or information call: Mary Borngraber, WC2G, (813) 938-7810.

DUNEDIN — TAMPA BAY AREA

W5YI-VEC coordinated amateur radio exams are conducted by the Dunedin ARC/VE testing team on the first Monday of every month. If the first Monday is a holiday, then the tests are held on the second Monday.

Testing begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Foreign Language Building, Number 99, Dunedin High School, 1615 Pinehurst Road, Dunedin.

Remember to bring with you, two forms of identification, originals and copies of your license and CSCE's if any and the \$5.40 fee required for the tech through extra exams. Talk-in on 145.110 or 145.310 (Tx-600).

For registration and/or information call WC2G at (813) 938-7810 or W8RH at (813) 535-2034. Mailing address is: P.O. Box 1851, Dunedin, Florida 34697.

TAMPA EVENING TESTING

W5YI-VEC exams will be held the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (except November and December). Sessions will be replaced by one date in early December due to holidays. (Phone for exact date during November.)

Testing location is the second floor of the American Red Cross Building, 217 North Howard Avenue, Tampa.

Novice exams are free. All others \$4.75 cash. Bring with you the original and a photocopy of your current license and original and photocopies of CSCE's, if any.

To resolve questions or obtain holiday season dates contact Scott, KA4FRO at (813) 685-2514.

SKIP-ITS

Some women not only meet their husbands halfway, but even go the whole way — right to the office on pay day.

HOLLYWOOD AREA

The Hollywood Amateur Radio Club (HARC) is sponsoring ARRL/VEC Examinations at 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. Location is the St. James Episcopal Church, 3329 Wilson Street, Hollywood.

Walk-ins exams are offered on a test-available basis. Bring a photocopy of your current license, photo identification, pen and pencil. There is no charge for novice exams ... all others are \$5.40.

For further information, call Pete Saglio, KB4NSA at 966-1322 or Tom Middleton, WB4CKY at 652-8869.

GULF COAST AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring ARRL/VEC exam sessions — novice through extra — on the first Tuesday of each month, except July, at 6:30 p.m. Location is the Adult Education Center, 5520 Grand Boulevard, New Port Richey.

Walk-ins accepted on a materials available basis. Pre-registration is strongly advised.

Bring original and photocopy of current amateur radio license, positive identification, check for \$5.40 payable to ARRL/VEC (no fee for novice exam) and original and photocopy of an CSCE. Form 610 will be furnished. Talk-in on 146.67 (-600).

For more information call Fred, AA4FG at (813) 849-1224 or Ralph, W2GLW at (813) 849-8351.

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

CAVEC FCC exams will be May 7th at 7:00 p.m. at Ed White High School, 1700 Old Middleburg Road.

Exam fee is \$5.00 for novice and students under 16 years old are free.

No prior reservations. Walk-ins only.

Contact Pete Nissen, W4PTT, (904) 781-0972.

ORLANDO

The Orlando Amateur Radio Club sponsored W5YI FCC Exams will be given monthly on the first Saturday of every month.

The exams will be held at the Maison Blanche Department Store in the "Community Room" in the Fashion Square Mall on East Colonial Drive.

All classes and licenses will be tested. The exams will start at 10:00 a.m. The Community Room is on the second floor.

Please bring original license and a copy as well as any CSCE's and copies of them. 610 Forms will be furnished.

The fee will be \$5.40 for all classes, except for novice, which is free.

No checks or money orders please.

Please Call Lou Gold, AC4GB at (407) 898-0429 to pre-reserve a spot in the room. This is suggested due to the large turnout expected.

Walk-ins welcome. Talk-in on 146.76.

Test dates are: April 4th, May 2nd, June 6th, August 1st, September 1st, October 3rd, November 7th and December 5th.

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

W5YI-VEC Test Session (Novice - Extra): 4th Tuesday of each even numbered month. Beginning 4 P.M. Jaycee's Bldg. on Singleton Ave. \$5.40 fee. Minimum of 2 identification documents required. Bring copy of current license, original and one copy of CSCE, or original signed 610 for proof of elements passed. No charge for novice. For information contact Bud Hughes - K4CWG (407) 267-3450 (evenings 269-0779). For talk in 146.91.

SKIP'S ON TAPE

"Talking Books" are records and cassette tapes of books and magazines that play on special equipment and are loaned free for use in your home as long as they are needed. If you are having trouble reading print because of an eye problem, a reading disability or if you have difficulty holding a book because of arthritis, a stroke or an accident, fill out a Talking Book Application and stay in touch with the world of books and magazines.

A Talking Book Application Form must be signed by a doctor, social worker, optometrist, nurse or other qualified person. To get an application form, call (904) 254-3824 or toll-free 1-800-342-5627.

Note: If you are already a library patron and would like to start receiving Florida Skip on cassette tape, just call the toll-free number to order it.



25 Years a Ham?
Got A question?
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159 E. 16th Street
Eugene, OR 97401

FLORIDA ROSE SWITCHES - UPDATED 6/7/92

CITY	ADDRESS	SPONSOR	CALL-SM/DIGIT	FREQ	NOTES
ARCADIA	B13400	SRCLAN	KE2IX-8/7	441.00	LINK TO FT. MYERS & SARASOTA
BELLE GLADE	407992	Palm Beach Packet Group	WB4KGY-3/2	145.01	(Temp. located at W.P.B.)
	407121		WB4KGY-7/6	223.42	LINK TO OKEI and HST1
	407122		WB4KGY-9/8	440.075	LINK TO WEST PALM & STUART
BLOUNTSTOWN	904674		WR4Z-3/BTN1	145.01	
BOCA RATON	407994	IBM Radio Club	WB4ONX-3/2	145.07	LAN FREQ
	407101		WB4ONX-5/4	223.48	(New Freq to WPB)
	407104		WB4ONX-11/10	443.325	BBS FORWARDING
BROOKSVILLE	904796		WA3YHV-4/3	223.42	
	904799		WA3YHV-8/7	145.07	
CHIPLEY	904773		K44WVO-1/CHP1	145.01	
	904638		K44WVO-11	145.67	LINK TO ALABAMA
CLEARWATER	813442	TPALAN	KC2FF-7/CLW5	145.05	LAN FREQ
	813022		KC2FF-6	223.42	BBS FORWARDING
COCOA	407631	WARREN/KD4DJQ	WARREN-2	145.01	LAN FREQ
DAYTONA BEACH	904677		NAEEB-5/4	145.05	LAN FREQ
	904254		NAEEB-3/2	223.42	
	904258		NAEEB-7/6	446.125	LINK TO ST. AUGUSTINE
DUNNELLON	904489		K4GBB-8/7	145.03	LAN FREQ
FANNING SPRINGS	904596		KB4QOX-5	145.01	LINK TO PERRY
	904463		KB4QOX-3	145.09	LINK TO GAINESVILLE
FOLKSTON (GA)	912496	N4TIS-6	N4TIS-6	145.67	SERVES W. NASSAU CTY, FL
FORT WHITE	904497	First Coast Amateur Packet Assoc.	N4ZFH-6/5	145.01	
	904454		N4ZFH-4/3	446.125	
GAINESVILLE	904375		KD4SR-5/4	145.09	LAN FREQ
	904376		KD4SR-3/3	223.42	
	904377		KD4SR-7/6	446.125	
HOLLYWOOD	305981	FL. Amat. Rad. Teletype Soc.	WA4IWD-3/6	144.93	LAN FREQ
	305010		WA4IWD-5/7	223.42	LINK TO BACKBONE
HUDSON	813863	Pasco LAN	W4NRY-4/3	145.07	LAN FREQ
	813856		N4DUY-4/3	223.42	
INVERNESS	904233	Sky High ARC	K4GBB-3/4	145.03	
JAX BEACH	904246		W4JR-9/8	144.91	LAN FREQ
	904241		W4JR-7/6	223.44	LINK TO JACKSONVILLE
JACKSONVILLE	904356	First Coast Amateur Packet Assoc.	W4BIW-5	145.07	LAN FREQ
	904630		AA4OI-2/1	223.42	LINK TO KB4OWD BBS
	904350		W4BIW-3	223.44	LINK TO JAX BEACH, FOLKSTON & MIDDLEBURG
	904354		W4BIW-7	223.44	BBS LINK
LAKE CITY	904755	First Coast Amateur Packet Assoc.	K4ZHU-6/5	145.01	LAN FREQ
	904752		K4ZHU-4/3	446.125	LINK TO GAINESVILLE
LAKELAND	813859		W4BISY-3/2	145.05	LAN FREQ
MELBOURNE	407724	Platinum Coast ARS	AB4GI-2/1	145.01	
	407726		AB4GI-4/3	223.42	
	407729		AB4GI-6/5	441.00	
MIDDLEBURG	904282	First Coast Amateur Packet Assoc.	K4UBR-7	144.93	LAN FREQ
	904283		K4UBR-3	223.44	LINK TO JACKSONVILLE
	904289		K4UBR-10	28.195	10 METER LINK
	904785		N4KOK-5/5	145.07	LINK TO JACKSONVILLE
	904010		N4KOK-8/7	446.125	LINK TO ST. AUG. & DAYTONA
OCALA	904624		K4OZS-1/2	145.01	SINGLE PORT
	904237		K4OZS-3/4	145.03	LAN FREQ
	904620		K4OZS-5/5	223.42	
	904732		K4OZS-11/11	145.01	
	904245		K4TSV-7	144.93	
ORLANDO	407277	Central Florida Packet Group	W4HIM-8/7	145.07	LAN FREQ
	407275		W4HIM-6/5	223.42	
	407849		W4HIM-2/1	145.01	TIED TO 220 W4HIM-6
	407423		W4HIM-4/3	441.00	SINGLE PORT
PANAMA CITY	904235		W4GKN-1/PFN1	145.01	LAN FREQ
PERRY	904584		KJ4ZI-1/PRY1	145.01	LAN FREQ
ST. AUGUSTINE	904829		KF4MX-7/6	144.99	ALSO SERVES PANAMA
	904825		KF4MX-5/4	446.125	LINK TO DAYTONA & MIDDLEBURG
ST. MARYS (GA)	912882		K4QHR-6	145.71	SERVES E. NASSAU CTY, FL
SARASOTA	813922	SRCLAN	W2TKU-5/4	145.07	LAN FREQ
	813923		W2TKU-3/2	441.00	
	813378		W43LKU-9/8	223.42	
	813371		W43LKU-7/6	145.09	
ST. LEO	904567	EPARS	AA4RU-7/8	144.93	LAN FREQ
	904025		AA4RU-2/3	223.42	
STUART	407220	Treasure Coast Packet Group	K4NTA-3/2	145.05	LAN FREQ
	407221		K4NTA-5/4	223.42	LINK TO NORTH & NORTHWEST
	407229		K4NTA-9/8	440.075	LINK TO WEST PALM & SOUTH
	407225		K4NTA-11	446.125	PROPOSED BBS LINK
SUNRISE	305748	Motorola Amateur Radio Club	W4ALZR-3/2	144.91	LAN FREQ
	305411		W4ALZR-1/6	144.91	LINK TO MIAMI
	305104		W4ALZR-5/8	440.975	LINK TO BOCA
TALLAHASSEE	904857		W4AZ-1/TLH1	145.01	
TAMPA BAY AREA	813878	TPALAN	KOZXP-9/TPA	144.91	<TRI-LINK> USER ACCESS
	813040		KOZXP-4	441.050	BBS FORWARDING
	813020		KOZXP-5	223.42	
	813000		CROWD	144.91	CONFERENCE (KEYBOARDERS) ACCESS VIA KOZXP-9
TAVARES	904326		KF4C-2	145.01	LAN FREQ
WEST PALM	407655	Palm Beach Packet Group	W4HXZ-3/2	145.03	LAN FREQ
	407111		W4HXZ-7/6	223.48	LINK TO BOCA RATON
	407112		W4HXZ-9/8	440.075	LINK TO STUART & BELLE GLADE
	407113		W4HXZ-11	445.075	BBS FORWARDING
WINTER PARK	407677		WB4YHP-7	145.07	
	407671		WB4YHP-2	145.01	
VERO BEACH	407774	Treasure Coast Packet Group	KB4PLH-5	223.42	(Currently off the air.)
	407778		KB4PLH-9	441.00	LINK TO NORTH & NORTHWEST
ZEPHYRHILLS	813782		N4DUY-6/5	145.07	LAN FREQ
	813046		N4DUY-8/7	441.00	

* This update replaces all previous lists which should be discarded. *

* Please send all corrections or additions to KB4VOL & KB4VOZ. Tnx! *

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ADI

RATE CARD INFORMATION

HAMBAR service of electronic equipment only is available to all subscribers, amateurs and non-amateurs at the rate of 10 cents per word, which includes address, call sign, etc. Minimum charge for any HAMBAR is \$3.00. All commercial and non-subscribers rate is 15 cents per word. Minimum charge of \$5.00 for each HAMBAR. No reruns. Each HAMBAR must be resubmitted each month. No ad will be published unless accompanied by full remittance! We require all HAMBAR ads contain the full mailing address, call sign, zip and area-phone number, if any. Make it easy for person wanting to buy your equipment. No HAMBARs via telephone!

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Deadline for all HAMBARs and ads, eighth (8th) of each month in P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, Florida 33266. Normal mailing date 25th of each month. Thank you for your cooperation.

— Editor.

N4J IR, Jay 407 768-7730 HAS 50 ft, free-standing tower in 10 foot sections F R E E to any amateur in Hurricane Andrew who lost their tower. Must pick up from Melbourne, Florida.

WANTED: New 4CX1000A or JAN 8168. J. F. Strom K9BS L 233 - 34th Ave. No., St. Petersburg, FL 33704 813 822-9107.

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE IF BE THE MAN WHO DOESN'T HAVE TO DO IT HIMSELF" N4OK Mealom 7....

FOR SALE: Complete OSCAR SATELLITE/antenna system; Hy-Gain 2M, 70CM with switchers and fiberglass boom. Yaesu G-5400B Rotor. Make offer. Bob K3KKA, 2031 Santa Antilles Rd., Orlando, FL 32806 407 896-6518.

FOR SALE: Hallicrafters SX-101A, clean, working condition \$10 or best offer. Virgil Black, 10027 E. Perch Ct., Inverness, FL 34450 904 637-4090.

SELL: FAST SCAN TV xcvr. 10 W. P.C. Electronics, 12 VDC or 115VAC. Mint \$200. via UPS and 13 e7 450 M Hx beam. (pick up) \$75.00 John Ayers WA4OTL 6 Maplewood Ct., Lake Placid, FL 33852 813 465-1821.

KENWOOD R-2000 all band receiver with VC-10 V HF 118-174 M Hz excellent condx. \$350. Kenwood SP-950 spkr with filters New \$75. Ameritron A L811 600 watt amplifier, mint \$450. Kenwood MC-50 microphone \$5. MFJ-986 3Kw antenna tuner & SWR output meter mint \$215. Radio Shack duofone answering machine TAD-512 new \$50. Commodore 64 and power supply, excellent condx. \$40. HALDS 2000 KSR send perfect CW for any rig excellent \$50. Sony SSM-910 monitor for above keyboard excellent \$40. All cartons and cables and manuals for above. Prefer pick up. Must see to appreciate. U Pay UPS. Don Phillips W4PE L 7807 NW 39th, Coral Springs, FL 33065 305 752-2990.

SELL: Beautiful 6 foot radio console. Can be disassembled for moving. Best offer or will trade antenna tower. Bud Buchfie W8NBU, 74 Lake Gardens Dr. Lake Placid, FL 33852 813 - 465-1877.

REPAIR SERVICE: ICOM KENWOOD YEASU TEN TEC, AZDEN & ATLAS repaired at reasonable cost, producing quality performance, in our own electronically sophisticated lab Ship equipment with letter stating problems & your preferred method of payment to: INTERNATIONAL RADIO & COMPUTERS' inc. 3804 South U.S. No. 1, Ft. Pierce, FL 34982 407 489-5609.

SELL: J C Penny CB/SSB mobile PTT mic with 4-pin connector. Works with any Kenwood/Yaesu with 4 pins, like new \$12.00 Electrophone Dynamic Stereo headphones, 8 ohms, soft cushions, like new \$10.00. BEARCAT III Scanner, 8 chnls, xtal, with ant. \$35.00. Heathkit transistor checker Mod. 11-18, Brown plastic carrying case \$22.00 Nicad Cell charger, by Liart mod. 200. Can charge from 1 to 6 cells in series. variable voltage 1-25 volts to 200 ma. with printed chart on front \$15.00. All above plus UPS. RCA XL100, 25 inch color Monitor/TV, good condition \$39.00 Same as above news focus control \$25.00. Pick up only! Have various lengths 22 to 54 feet 73 ohm coax with BNC connectors on both end only \$1.50 each plus UPS. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.

ANTENNA SALE: Cushcraft D3W WARC rotatable dipole for 30, 17, 12 M \$100. TelRx 2M814 2M beam \$75. Pair of TelRex 6M624X (heavy duty) 6M beams with TelRex 20 foot stacking-phasing harness with N-Connectors \$250. Beams only \$125. each. Harness only \$25. TelRex 6M1136 6M beam, 11-elements, 36 - foot boom \$250. Colatchco guyed 1/4 wave 80 M Vertical \$50. 80M phasing lines and remote switching box for pair of verticals \$75. Hy-Gain 205B-S 5 element 2M FM stainless beam \$25. Create AFA-75 2 element phased array beam for 75M (Very big beam) \$500. Pro-search 1-A antenna controller \$150. Palomar PT-340 tuner-tuner \$50. Palomar BA-2000 5kW boom balun (Brand New) \$60. Mike Raskin K4KUZ, 561 West Tropical Way, Plantation, FL 33317 305 583-4026 after 9 AM.

The most UTTERLY LOST OF ALL DAYS IS THAT IN WHICH YOU HAVE NOT ONCE LAUGHED... tks ZGG.

FREE FOR REMOVAL: ROHN 25G 50 ft tower, propitch motor mounted on elevator so beam can be lowered to the ground with a hand winch. Power transformer for propitch. 6 stainless steel down guys. 2 sets of torsion bars, turnbuckles and all hardware. 3 sections of tower still usable. O. B. Partridge W4BWP, 240 NW 150 St., Miami, FL 33168 305 688-4772.

SELL like new in box. All Kenwood: TS430S with all filters, power supply 430, tuner AT-250, spkr SP430, patch PC1A, mic MC-60 2 meter amp 2530, hand held 2 meter ICOM IC02A AT. Everything you need except antenna for \$1100. N. Mitchell K14VA, 9780A Pecan Tree Dr., Boynton Beach, FL 33436 407 738-4859.

ANTENNAS FOR SALE: Mosley Classic 33 - tri-band \$95.00 Wilson Sys 33 Tri-band. Conrad W. Kibler WB4ARS, 10102 Cliff Cir. Tampa, FL 33612 813 933-2850.

ROTORS: REPAIR SERVICE. American made rotors reconditioned. Labor charge for repairs only \$20. Rebuilds \$35. parts are charged extra. Conrad Kibler WB4ARS, 10102 Cliff Cir., Tampa, FL 33612 813 933-2850.

FOR SALE: Kenwood TR 7900 2 meter mobile with clip on antenna, phone pad mike, instructions manual and all hardware. Bill Abrahams K4HBR, 1600 S. Ocean Dr. 5H, Hollywood, FL 33019 305 920-8580.

LOOKING FOR parts or junked beams or quads made by Mini Products Inc., Also control box with good meter for TET Rotor. Please drop me a card or note. John Lyster KM4CB, 8269 SW 204 Ct., Dunnellon, FL 34431 904 489-0605.

PEOPLE WHO NEVER PLAY GOLF WILL BE ABOUT OTHER THINGS.....LIE ABOUT OTHER THINGS.....

SELL: LINEAR amplifier and antenna tuner - BTI LK2000 & Dentron MT-3000A, full legal power with reserve \$1000. or best offer. Richard Vanhook N4EV, 8405 SW 102 Pl., Miami, FL 33173 305 271-8281.

WANTED: DISK drive for Coleco Adam computer in good condition. Quote price. Victor M. Lopez N4ICP, 16610 SW 99th Ave., Miami, FL 33157-3246 305 378-9496.

THE WORSE MISER IS THE PERSON WHO WILL NOT GIVE LOVE..... tks W4ZGG.

STOLEN H/T. Be on lookout for Kenwood TH-27A stolen from my car sometime after midnight on 25 July 1992. Serial No. 20502548. Reward for return. Harry Mead W4MRY, 407 - 277-0391 or 407 281-1288 or write 38 N. Alder Dr. Orlando, FL 32807.

WANTED: YEASU FI-7000 linear amplifier. Poor look or shape not important. Louis Petrole KB4NGH, 800 West Ave. No. 729 Miami Beach, FL 33139 305 534-0940. Leave message.

SELL: FT-33/R Handy-talkie (220 MHz) with 12 volt battery for full 5 watts, and rapid charger, Private line/ touch tone pad. Complete \$225. Like New! G. Pohl (No call sign given) P. O. Box 4452, Homosassa Springs, FL 34447 No phone available.

WHAT'S A SMAH?
by Florida Skip Correspondent
Carl Zelich, AA4MI

Patrons reading a wall plaque outside a private dining room at the Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach, often ask, "What's a SMAH?"

Well, a SMAH is a group of local hams who meet each Friday at 10:30 for a weekly luncheon, comradery and technical exchanges. SMAH, incidentally, is "hams" spelled backwards.

Tales of the "good ol' days", how life was "up north" or "in the service" encourage the warm strength of friendship. The SMAH has only one rule, that is: There are no rules. Consequently, be ready to expect anything; yes, I said anything.

At a recent luncheon, 79 year old Bill Vissers, K4KI, a retired physicist, mentioned that his hearing is not what it used to be. Due to the cost of \$1,000 per ear for a hearing device, he was investigating economical methods for improvement.

Normally, a person curves a hand behind the ear. This works well but gets arm-tiring.

His solution was to make a hole in the side of 2 big plastic cups. One could then place a cup over each ear and, viola, no more tired arms! Amazing. He wonders why no one else has ever thought of this.

So there Bill stands with these 2 huge white cups pointing forward from each ear. His lovely wife, Dot, can't appreciate the economy (or appearance) of Bill's solution. (Meanwhile, fellow SMAHs are rollin' in the aisles.)

Dick, W4YWA, suggested a green and red color would help nautical members find port and starboard more easily.

Bill said, "Since they don't cost much, advertisements could be placed on the sides and they could be given out free."

Just try it yourself. And it really works. (Thanks for a good laugh, Bill.)

**MELBOURNE HAMFEST AN UNQUALIFIED
SUCCESS**

by Gerry Wentz (KC4EHT)
Florida Skip Correspondent

Threatening skies and the lingering memories of Hurricane Andrew didn't discourage over 4000 amateur-radio operators and others from pouring into the Melbourne Auditorium Saturday, September 12th for the opening of the 27th Annual Melbourne Hamfest. Unlike last year, construction to the auditorium was completed giving considerably more floor space. A virtual army of well-coached parking engineers averted the parking disaster of a year ago.

Inside the auditorium, the extra floor space was used effectively by providing wider aisles and efficient arrangement of tables and displays. Despite a crowd that unofficially surpassed all previous hamfests, the traditional people pileups were not apparent.

A few things will never change though. As one walks in the door and glances slightly to the right, one immediately sees the ever smiling face of Andy Clark, the Editor/Publisher Extraordinaire of *FLORIDA SKIP*.

Manning (Womanizing?) the ARRL booth was Evelyn Gauzens (W4WYR), Vice Director SE Division ARRL, fresh from her superb effort in coordinating amateur-radio communications efforts in the hurricane devastated Dade County area. Later she was replaced by the Director SE Division, Frank Butler Jr. (W4RH). Darting from one seminar to another was Dick Hill (WA4PFK) the Section Manager SE Division.

The tailgate area which nearly burst through its seams last year, did this year! The only space left for tailgating was in the lake beside the auditorium. A complete tour of the tailgate area could take a day itself.

All things considered, the officials of the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society should be smiling at the success of their 27th hamfest.

**1992 Lake County
HAMFEST & ELECTRONICS EXPO**

November 7, 1992

**Lake County Fair Grounds
Eustis, Florida**

Hours: 9:00AM — 5:00PM

**VE Exams at 1:00PM
(Walk-ins welcome)**

**For additional information
contact:**

**Cole (KC4UIG)
(407)273-1624
6108 Curry Ford Road
Apt. 216
Orlando, FL 32822**

THE FCC AND HURRICANE ANDREW
by Florida Skip Correspondent
Carl Zelich, AA4MI

The FCC's Emergency Broadcast System (EBS) responded to Hurricane Andrew's devastation of south Florida on August 24.

During the critical hours before the storm hit, the EBS was activated to warn the public of the impending danger and to instruct them to take precautions. Despite the enormity of the hurricane, the loss in human life was small due to information carried by the EBS.

During and after the hurricane, the FCC remained active in several critical areas including:

Designating the Field Operations Bureau, of which EBS is a part, to serve as liaison with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and participating with the FEMA National Hurricane Response Team;

Telephoning key EBS stations before and after the hurricane to be sure they were capable of working with local authorities to pass emergency messages about food, water, power, etc.;

Helping arrange fuel delivery to key EBS station WFLC-FM in Miami when their emergency generators fuel ran low;

Alerting the communications industry that the FCC was prepared to issue waivers and temporary authorizations for stations in the disaster area. A 24-hour number where FCC assistance could be obtained was announced;

FCC Engineers-in-Charge contacting local and regional Emergency Operations Center;

Arranging through FEMA to produce and distribute 15,000 portable battery operated radios to the public. Information could be disseminated where there was no electrical power;

Coordinating with the Department of Defense and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to allow the Army to set up a broadcast station in the Homestead, FL, area to broadcast disaster recovery information to the public; and

Issuing a waiver to a Miami CBS television station to allow it to operate from a different location when its transmission tower was damaged.

HURRICANE ANDREW

By Paul Hunt, K1MJS, Miami, FL

(These are the hastily prepared recollections of one amateur radio operator who helped out. There are many others with their own stories.)

In the early morning of August 24, 1992, Hurricane Andrew visited Dade County and will be long remembered as the most terrorizing and most destructive disaster in modern history.

Amateur radio is a hobby but one most of us take very seriously. Amateur radio provided the single reliable thread of communications in the days following this monumental disaster. The dedication of those operators who responded will long be remembered. The sacrifices were many and were substantial. Unfortunately, one of our fraternity paid dearly with his life when he was struck by lightning at one of the many sites where amateur radio operators worked tirelessly. His sacrifice should inspire us all and should not be ever forgotten.

Hurricane Andrew activated RACES and thrust the Red Cross into action. The Dade County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) came alive with representatives from dozens of government agencies and disaster assistance organizations. All demanded communications which almost all of them had completely lost. The only continuously reliable communications was through amateur radio.

Some 200 amateurs provided absolutely essential communications with the many shelters, numerous medical units, scattered distribution sites, and various feeding stations. No other communications were available to fill these roles. The National Guard, the U.S. Public Health Service, Florida Highway Patrol, the Red Cross, HRS, FEMA and food distribution personnel were only some of the agencies who relied upon the amateur radio network as their primary source of communications during the initial days after the disaster. The Navy even called to ask the amateurs to find out the frequencies of the Army so they could coordinate.

Amateur radio operators worked long hours, 12-14 hour days, some nearly 24 hour days to ensure food was delivered to the appropriate locations, to obtain emergency medical care in shelters, and to link medical stations to their source of staff and supplies. If a final count could ever be accurately made, probably well over one thousand messages were handled by the combined efforts of amateur radio operators during the period until the RACES operations was formally closed at midnight, September 1, 1992.

Locally, we owe a tremendous debt to our fellow amateurs from around the state who responded in great numbers. They moved in with their equipment, their batteries, their campers, and their enthusiasm and dedication. When the details of the experience are finally analyzed, it will be clear that two-thirds to three-quarters of the operators came from out of Dade County.

When there is more time, more details can be assembled and a more accurate understanding of amateur radio's role can be developed.

However, many questions have already been asked and remain unanswered. Why, for instance, was the network held together by only such a small cadre of local amateurs? What type of training and organization will better prepare us for next time? Since relatively few local amateurs responded to the emergency, how do we prepare better for out-of-county amateurs?

In the weeks to come, we will all need to do some very serious debriefing and reevaluating. With strong leadership and a small dedicated cadre we slipped through this emergency. We must learn from this experience so we can do even better next time. There will be a next time!

Finally, a million thanks to those amateurs who spent countless and difficult hours providing this county with a priceless backbone of communications when literally no other service could do the job. You know who you are and you can be very satisfied with your performance and those of your colleagues. Your many sacrifices will be soon forgotten.

(from So. FL FM Assoc., Miami, FL, W4SQG Ed.)



WHAT'S LEFT OF N4ZOH's mobile home at 19800 SW 180 Ave, Homestead. N4ZOH lost everything, but was able to save part of his ham station. See stories elsewhere. More photos next month. If you have a story on HKN Andrew, please send it in for publication. Editor (Photo by N4ZOH.)

HAM RADIO OPERATORS HELP PROCESS IMPORTANT MESSAGES IN HURRICANE ANDREW DISASTER

By Frank Stipkala, American Red Cross

Even before Hurricane Andrew struck the Florida coast line, Norm Ward of Miami (K4RBR) began transporting HAM radio equipment from the Miami Red Cross Chapter to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union Headquarters (Local 349) on 17th Street NW.

"We had just used the building for a recent flood disaster, so I had some knowledge of what to do when we got the warning that Andrew was blowing in," Ward said.

"There was so much happening so fast that we were literally scrambling to find out what was needed, and where, and how to address the communications problem once the power was out," he added.

According to Ward, there was an immediate and good response between the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Headquarters and the Emergency Operations Center in Dade County.

About 30 HAM radio operators responded early on and were able to process about 1,000 messages in the first week of operation.

A HAM operator for 33 years, Ward retired in 1988 from the construction trade where he had spent more than 30 years. He had been vice president and general manager of S & C Supply, Inc.

The local Amateur Radio Public Service Corps is chaired by Andy Clark (W4IYT), who is in his 42nd year of providing leadership to the HAM group.

Asked to recount some of the success stories of his HAM colleagues, Ward said that at one point he found some people with no communications and no transportation who were desperate.

"I alerted a relay man and he called the Red Cross and immediate help was sent them. I believe they were transported to a Red Cross shelter."

Ward added that his group was able to set up HAM radio outlets at 75% of the shelters set up after Hurricane Hugo struck land. Later on HAMS began operating at the various Red Cross distributions points and the feeding areas.

Typifying the kind of dedication shown by the HAMS from the start is Lee Paulet of Tampa (KB4FBX), who stayed up all night on the Monday after the Hurricane hit and had only three hours of sleep during the first 36 hours on the job. In fact he has literally been sleeping at his HAM station nightly since then.

"I'll do anything I can to help the Hurricane survivors," Paulet said.

A husband and wife team that came to Miami from Jacksonville were John (KC4ZGE) and Denise (KD4OIX) Hannaford.

Helping from Glenn, St. Mary was four-year HAM Charles Chanaki (KC4KFR).

What type calls are coming in a week after the disaster? One call came from another HAM who was in touch with a person in Destin, Florida that said he had the capability of delivering 10,000 pounds of ice to the Red Cross. "Just tell me where you want it delivered," he told the Red Cross.

Special recognition goes to Mark Parmeley of Boynton Beach (WA4UHC) who managed to bring a deep cycle marine battery to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Headquarters which helped power the HAM stations. "He was a great help to us in the initial stages of this disaster," said Ward. "With no power of the conventional kind, we had to move our antenna outside the windows on the wrong side (west end) of the building from Miami."

Ward added that several power surges occurred while the generator was in use, and many fuses were blown out.

Ward said that there were many more unsung heroes among the HAM group who helped expedite communications along the Florida coast. "Just be sure to thank all of them for leaving their jobs and families to help the victims of Hurricane Andrew," he concluded.

FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA

The Fort Pierce ARC will operate KN4RY on Nov. 14, from 1400Z-2100Z. To commemorate the 7th Anniversary of the UDT-SEAL Museum. The bands of operation will be on the general portion of 40, 20, 15, and the novice portion of the 10 meter band. For a certificate, please send a QSL and a large #10 SASE to Fort Pierce Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 4, Fort Pierce, FL 34954.

73 - Bill Shisler, W3DHN

FROM FRONT PAGE

immediately responded Red Cross, church groups, the Salvation Army and other organizations to handle health and welfare traffic.

All traffic nets were used to handle messages into southern Florida. All cw, ssb and packet modes and frequencies quickly exceeded routine traffic. Among all the stations performing beyond all expectations were such stations as Bill, WB4WYG, Doc, W4SME, Terry, KO4LL, Bill, WB4HXS, Ray, N4LEM, Jim, W4BAL, and many, many others. Radio Amateur callsigns would fill this page and beyond for all those who helped. In the Miami area, Evelyn, W4WYR, Andy, W4IYT, and Norm, K4RBR performed incredible communications and logistics coordination. W4WYR accepted 2 radio amateur teams with equipment from PCARS. One team was established in a third floor of a convent. Other team members were assigned to critical locations as they became available.

The initial impact of hurricane Andrew required 24 hour a day operating. After 5 days of continuous operating, fatigue started appearing and relief operators were needed. This was both within and outside the disaster area.

President Bush toured the area and provided recovery funding to immediately begin cleanup. The Federal Emergency Management Agency had 27 agencies immediately available to support disaster victims.

This is not the whole story which continues as I write this. Please let me know what you or your group has done. My address: 250 Diana Blvd., Merritt Island, FL 32953-3165, Tel. (407) 452-6410.



Behind that door was the ham shack of N4ZOH, in Homestead. His trailer park was 99 percent destroyed. The rigs however were saved with some water damage. For INFO Spencer Chibodeau N4ZOH has moved to 221 Rose Ave, Sebring, FL 33872 in case anyone is looking for him. (Photo (N4ZOH))

KITSAT OSCAR 23 IN ORBIT! by Florida Skip Correspondent Carl Zelich, AA4MI

ARRL Bulletin 74, August 17, 1992 from W1AW: The newest amateur radio satellite, KITSAT OSCAR 23, was successfully placed into orbit on August 10. Testing and software uploading are underway and the new satellite is expected to be ready for use in a few weeks. OSCAR 23 is very similar in function to UOSAT OSCAR 22. Uplink frequencies are 145.850 MHz. and 145.900 MHz. Downlink frequency is 435.175 MHz. AR

NOTICE SNOW BIRDS...

PLEASE — when you FLY North or South, or any other place, please let us know at least 2 to 3 weeks in advance. When you move without advising us, the Post Office returns your SKIP and it costs us 35 cents for each issue. It used to be 15 cents, but they increased it over 100 percent. Please help us do a better job for you... Thanks!! Editor.